

August 2021 - Issue No. 2

Gordon's Bay Neighbourhood Watch

OUR DIGITAL
NEWSLETTER

'Chair'

MARC QUINN



We have had a very busy past month giving all our partners in and around Gordon's Bay our support with the recent unrest that the country experienced. We placed members in strategic places along with patrols throughout our town keeping us all safe.

We would like to just give a big Thank you - "It shows us that coming together we can defuse any situation that we encounter".

Our Exco Team will continue to build relationships with different agencies to ensure we stay ahead of the game and work together.

Monthly Meeting

Once again due to COVID we have not been able to have our monthly meeting, which is sad as we have so many new members to welcome. We hope the situation will change for next month, let's be positive and look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Welcome

A very warm welcome to all our new members. It has been so encouraging to see how many residents have joined us and the current need to assist in the safety of Gordon's Bay, just being part of the 'family' has its value and more encouraging was the number that indicated that they would like to patrol. It does not in any way discount those who are 'home observers' but we know that the visible policing is the answer to our crime situation.

Welcome to each of the 26 new members in the month of July – thank you for joining GBNW.

Finger Printing

Thank you to the members who have renewed their membership by having their fingerprints redone. A great response was great and to see so many faces that we have not seen for a long time a bonus – thank you.

As previously notified, if you have not had your fingerprints redone – you will be removed from the different what's app groups when we clean out the different what's app groups and reload all members that have been fingerprinted.

For those members who have not been fingerprinted we ask you to advise us if you want to remain a member, email admin@gbnw.co.za if you still need to be fingerprinted so that we can arrange a special date.

Patrolling



Leon, our patrolling leader had an open patroller meeting at HQ late last month, but unfortunately the weather turned really cold and there were not many members present or new members.

Leon will organize another meeting so that the 'new patrollers' can be inducted and be taken out onto the road. All new members that have indicated that they would like to patrol will be added to the patrol groups when we reload all members on the different groups, and this will take place within the next 10 days.

During this past month several operations were held with SAPS, and SAPS relies on the NW to assist where we can, so being part of this group is important not only for the organisation but for the safety of our town.

Members Handbook & Membership Cards

We are in the final stages completing our handbook to be issued to all fingerprinted members together with their membership card – exciting times, our constitution, code of conduct, radio etiquette and more in one booklet, important phone numbers etc

Crime

The past month crime stats as reported from SAPS has been low for Gordon's Bay. This is a concern not only from SAPS but for us as NW, as we know that it is not the case from all the posts that are posted on social media.

The question is why are residents not reporting? Is it just a waste of time to report or just could not be bothered, is it lack of service, or just the apathy to get in the car and to go and report, one wonders?

Remember in many instances, if you have reported an incident and nothing happens, it does not ***mean nothing has not happened***, it means SAPS will have record what has happened if you have reported it, they will build a case history and if it continually happens, they have the history so don't think it's a waste of time, rather help by building that history.

In the past week we have recorded theft from business premises, house break-in which is on the increase and a member being involved with possible theft of his 'bakkie', together with theft of an expensive bicycle from the ice cream shop on the beach front, and other petty crimes.

Domestic abuse is on the increase. With our unemployment figures rising we see the amount of people walking the street, jobless, sitting at the pubs from opening time till late then gets behind the steering wheels get home to a hungry family and then the abuse starts.

Jobless / homelessness / vagrancy we can see the amount of jobless that are walking our streets, just looking for that opportunity, we need to be very aware. Our home observers must start reporting strange incidents and those stragglers that are just window shopping just looking for the holiday home that is closed up, the home with patio furniture that is of easy picking, we had two incidents regarding garden furniture, so be aware, be aware of sounds at night, remember our windy season is soon starting again, and this is when they strike, as you think it's something being moved by the wind – lets be more aware of our surrounds and what is around our home that is easy picking. As soon as our portal is up and running you will be able to report online.

One cannot take your eye off your possessions, do not walk chatting on your phone, do not leave your phone on the table whilst you are enjoying a 'cuppa' or a luncheon, you are a target – here are a few tips on home security that we know but maybe do not implement:

- Ensure appropriate keyed locks are fitted to all doors and windows, eg bolt locks.

- Install a quality security door to the front and rear doors,
- Install a wide-angle peep hole (door viewer) in front and rear doors if you do not have a camera system.
- Install a security alarm system.
- Even when you are outside, be sure to lock all doors and windows.
- Consider installing external sensor lighting.
- Have secure fencing and put locks on gates. • Keep trees and bushes in front of doors and windows trimmed to avoid being used as hiding places.
- Keep a tidy garden to give the impression your home is occupied.
- Store keys out of sight and in a safe place

Our New Digital Platform

Our new digital platform is already in use for the registration of members, and slowly we are catching up with putting everybody onto the system, together with uploading the photographs for easy recognition.

On the reporting side we are in the process of designing a reporting system to use in the meantime and it will be launched within the next few days then transferred to our digital portal to start plotting the hot spot areas.

Neighbourhood Watch Training

We are thrilled to announce that NW training from the Department of Safety & Security will take place on 28 August at the Lion's Club from 09h00 to 12h00.

An email together with a google form to all new members to see who would like to attend. Due to COVID we may only accommodate 25 members, should there be more we will try and secure another date.

Gordon's Bay Beach Clean-up

We are partnering with the GBRA and Helderberg Beach Cleanup for the monthly beach clean-up.

GBNW will use this opportunity to raise funds by selling pancakes and coffee and in summer some cold drinks for sale to boost our funds. Hope you all going to join in and make it a festive day, lets show the residents who we are. We will need some champion pancake makers.

Dates to Remember:

Date	Time	Details
Every Monday	09h30	Gordon's Bay Crime Report on Radio Helderberg 93.6FM
28 August 2021	09h00 – 12h00	Neighbourhood Watch Training, Lion's Club Gordon's Bay
15 September 2021	19h00	Neighbourhood Watch Monthly Meeting
18 September 2021	09h00 – 12h00	E Waste Day
18 September 2021	10h00 – 11h00	Gordon's Bay Beach Clean Up GBNW – will be selling Pancakes and Coffee on the day from HQ

Priority List

As we continue to build GBNW and getting our communication structure in place where we are all well informed on crime and law enforcement matters that is valid we continue to ensure our priorities are met, we getting there, baby steps, but we getting there.

TO BE DONE	Date Start	To be Completed by	Progress/Next Step
1. Constitution	12 June 2021	Completed	Ready for final proof reading
2. Code of Conduct	5 July 2021	Completed	Ready for final proof reading
3. POPI ACT	2 July 2021	20 July 2021	MQ to register as POPI Representative
4. Membership Confirmation	2 July 2021		On going
5. Membership – clean up data base, remove members no longer change details where details have changed	5 July 2021	28 – 29 August	In Progress
6. Membership – fingerprinting – continue with the re-fingerprinting of members as started 2 months for re-accreditation purposes	10 July 2021	27 July 2021	• On going
7. Membership Cards	On Going		Due to fingerprinting being slow to be returned due their internal processes
8. Policies & Procedures	5 July 2021	On going	On going
9. Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)	5 July 2021	On Going	On going
10. New Digital Platform	On going		Have already started with the capture of membership – Patrol platform by end of august
11. Online Shop	15 July 2021		In Progress
12. Assets Register	5 July 2021	27 July 2021	Completed and submitted to docs
13. Treasurer / Banking	5 July 2021		• In progress
14. Website	On going	On going	In progress of being updated and modernized.

15. Patrollers	On Going		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First meeting held but due to cold weather was not well attended.
16. Street Groups	We want to know that we have NW Champions in every street in GB	On Going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once membership checklist is back, we can then see who belongs to street groups and start working with them. • SOP still to be written.

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